



I L L I N O I S

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

-

PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.

BULLETIN

OF THE CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTER

Published by

The University of Chicago Library - Center for Children's Books

VOL. VI

October, 1952

No. 2

BULLETIN of the Children's Book Center.
Published by the University of Chicago Library,
Center for Children's Books. Mary K. Eakin,
Librarian.

The book evaluations appearing in this BULLETIN
are made with the advice and assistance of
members of the faculty of the Graduate Library
School, the Department of Education, and the
University Laboratory School.

Published monthly except August. Subscription
price is \$1.75 a year. Checks should be made
payable to the University of Chicago Library.
Correspondence regarding the BULLETIN should be
addressed to the Center for Children's Books,
University of Chicago, 5835 Kimbark Avenue,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

New Titles for Children and Young People

Bailey, Carolyn Sherwin. A candle for your
cake; twenty-four birthday stories of famous
men and women; drawings by Margaret Ayer.
Lippincott, 1952. 248p. \$2.75.

A collection of stories, two for each month,
about famous men and women who were born in that
month. The stories are mildly interesting al-
though some glaring inaccuracies in several of
them spoil their value both as biographical and
historical material. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Bannon, Laura. The best house in the world;
story and pictures by Laura Bannon. Houghton,
1952. 28p. \$2.25.

Sammy, a very young boy, sets out with
Stripey Cat to see how the various small animals
make their homes. As he views each house he at
first thinks it is better than his own and then
comes to the realization that it would not do at
all for his family. In the end he goes home
convinced that he has the best house in the world.
Dull story and static, unattractive illustrations.
Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Barrie, James Matthew. Peter Pan; retold for
little children by Marcia Martin; pictures by
Beatrice Derwinski. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p.
25¢.

A dull, lifeless version of Peter Pan that
has been re-written for younger children. It
seems a shame to spoil a child's later interest
in the story by introducing him to such a cut and
uninteresting version. Not recommended. (K-Gr.2)

Bartlett, Floy Little. The busy book; rhymes and
riddles and things to do; by Floy Little
Bartlett and Josephine Pease; illus. by Helen

Szepelak. Rand McNally, 1952. 33p. (A
book-elf book). 25¢.

A collection of rhymes, riddles, puzzles,
and similar activities for very young children.
Some of the activities would be fun but many
of the illustrations are too small for the
young child to identify, some do not match the
text, and some are confusing. Not recommended
(Pre-school)

Begbie, Joan. Freelance the pony; illus. by
Frank Grey. Dodd, 1952. 207p. \$2.50.

The Hardy's were a sea-loving family
except for eleven-year-old Judith. Her heart
was set on owning a New Forest pony and the
pony of her choice was Will Heydon's filly,
Freelance. With the help and encouragement of
her family she began saving her money to buy
the pony but before she could save enough
Heydon sold Freelance. Then began a difficult
time for both Judith and the pony who went
from one cruel owner to another until she was
finally rescued by the local veterinarian and
restored to Judith. Not an out-standing
story although the English setting is inter-
esting and there are good descriptions of fox
hunts to add appeal. The illustrations, black
and white line drawings, have a verve and
humor that is reminiscent of Caldecott.

(Gr.5-7)

Bemelmans, Ludwig. The happy place; illus. by
the author. Little, 1952. 58p. \$2.50.

The adventures of Winthrop, a marked-down
Easter bunny, as he copes with the rough
handling of two small children who own him and
the dangers of life in Central Park where he
is released by the children's father.
Winthrop meets a lonesome frog in the Central
Park reservoir and a lonesome elephant in the
Central Park Zoo, both of whom he befriends.
The story has an adult humor and sophistica-
tion that will be meaningless to most children
who will, however, enjoy Winthrop as an
unusual rabbit. The story will be fun to read
aloud, and children and adults alike will enjoy
Bemelman's drawings. The story was first
published in Woman's Home Companion. (K-Gr.2)

Block, Irvin. The real book about the
Mounties; illus. by C. L. Hartman. Garden
City Books, 1952. 179p. \$1.25.

Episodes from the history of the Royal
Canadian Mounted Police from the very
beginning of the service to modern times.
Well-told and an interesting subject that will
have wide appeal. Sixth graders will have

little difficulty with the writing and older readers will find the subject and style satisfactory. (Gr.6-9)

Briggs, Dorothy Bell. Noah's ark; illus. by Elizabeth Webbe. Rand McNally, 1952. 27p. (A book-elf book) 25¢.

Sweetly sentimental verse and pictures of the animals that went into the Ark. Lacks both the quality of writing and the appeal of Webb's Story of Noah (Warne, 1949) or Lenski's Mr. and Mrs. Noah (Crowell, 1948). Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Bright, Robert. Richard Brown and the dragon; retold from an anecdote by Samuel Langhorne Clemens in A tramp abroad. Doubleday, 1952. 92p. \$2.

A witty re-telling and expansion of an anecdote which Clemens treats briefly in A tramp abroad. In Bright's version, Richard Brown is an apprentice to a bucket maker in a country that is being terrorized by a fiery dragon. After all the local knights have failed to subdue the dragon, Richard sets forth and accomplishes the task with the aid of his latest invention - the first fire-extinguisher. Somewhat sophisticated but fun for reading aloud at the 4-5 grade level. Humorous and colorful drawings. (Gr.4-6)

Brook, Emma Lillian. Kristie's Buttercup; written and illus. by Emma L. Brook. Knopf, 1952. 86p. \$2.50.

Further doings of the Iversen family, their hired man, and Kristie, the horse. This time Elmer, Einer, their father and the hired man are concerned with ways whereby they can get the black-and-white Holstein heifer Mrs. Iversen wants. They finally find just the right cow, whom they name Buttercup, and she is promptly adopted by Kristie. The story has all the humor and suspense of Mrs. Brock's earlier stories of the Iversen's and Kristie. Excellent for reading aloud and easy enough for third grade readers to handle alone. (Gr.3-5)

Bronson, Lynn, pseud. Rogue's valley. Lippincott, 1952. 214p. \$2.50.

A well-written, fast-paced story of the gold rush in Oregon. Noname, a young boy suffering from amnesia, is captured by a tribe of Rogue Indians, escapes, and makes his way to Jacksonville where he lives while trying to regain his memory. His adventures in Jacksonville are varied and exciting and culminate in a dramatic meeting with his former captives and an injury which restores his memory. Excellent adventure and good period fiction. (Gr.7-9)

Brown, Margaret Wise. Christmas in the barn; pictures by Barbara Cooney. Crowell, 1952. 28p. \$1.75.

A re-telling of the Christmas story in rhyme. The illustrations are of a North European setting of earlier times and both text and illustrations reflect the spirit of the story as told in the Bible. A nice gift item for Christmas. (Pre-school-Gr.3)

Browning, James. The busy bulldozer; illus. by Dorothy Grider. Rand McNally, 1952. 26p. (A book-elf book). 25¢.

All the varied activities of a bulldozer are

pictured as a small boy watches the machine dig the foundation for his house and level the ground around it. Contrived but more satisfactory than most stories of this type. (Pre-school-Gr.2)

Brunhoff, Jean de. The story of Babar the little elephant; trans. from the French by Merle S. Haas. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p. 25¢.

The original story has been out and a few sentences re-written. The resulting version is no easier than the original and since the story has always been one to read to young children it is difficult to know what the editors have in mind when they list this version as intended for "younger readers". The illustrations are poor copies of de Brunhoff's work. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Bulla, Clyde Robert. Johnny Hong of Chinatown; illus. by Dong Kingman. Crowell, 1952. 69p. \$2.

Seven-year-old Johnny Hong looked forward to his eighth birthday when he hoped to have a birthday party. Because he had been ill for a long time and unable to attend school he did not know many children his own age but that did not stop him from planning his party and as soon as he was allowed out of the house he began making friends so he would know someone to invite. Small boys with older brothers will be especially appreciative of Johnny's desire to do the things the older boys were doing and his unhappiness when he was constantly told he was too little and to quit tagging along. Johnny's story not only gives an interesting picture of life in Chinatown but is a realistic picture of small boys everywhere. (Gr.2-4)

Burlingame, Roger. Mosquitoes in the big ditch; the story of the Panama Canal; illus. by Helen Damrosch Tee-Van. Winston, 1952. 177p. (Winston adventure books). \$1.50.

Fifteen-year-old Louis Martin had lived all his life in Panama where his father had served under de Lesseps when the French were attempting to dig the Canal. After the death of his parents, Louis was faced with deportation to France until he proved his usefulness to Dr. Gorgas and was allowed to remain at Gorgas' hospital. The story fails to give the reader a very clear picture of either the building of the Canal or the fight against malaria and yellow fever. The writing is choppy and the ending is disjointed and confusing. Not recommended. (Gr.5-7)

Campbell, Samuel Arthur. The seven secrets of Somewhere Lake; animal ways that inspire and amaze; illus. by Harry H. Lees. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 236p. \$2.50.

Nature lore with a heavy dose of moralizing on current social problems and of sentimentality. The story is divided between the Campbells' trip to Grand Canyon and the problems Hi Bub and Tony have taking care of the animals at Sanctuary Lake. The nature lore is interesting, although stickily sentimental, but the preaching is dull and it occupies a major portion of the book. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Carhart, Arthur H. Son of the forest.
Lippincott, 1952. 244p. \$2.50.

When Jim Craighead joins his father at the ranger station at Ragged Hills he realizes at once that there is serious trouble between his father and the local cattlemen. How serious, he does not realize until both he and his father have their lives threatened, his father's reputation is almost ruined, and a forest fire nearly destroys the forest preserve. There is good material for conservation in the fight of Glenn Craighead to keep the forest lands from being overgrazed but the characters are too typed and the situations too dependent on coincidence and fortuitous circumstances to make the story seem realistic. Not recommended.

(Gr.7-9)

Carroll, Ruth (Robinson). Salt and Pepper; by Ruth and Latrobe Carroll. Oxford, 1952. 32p. \$2.

Pepper was a small boy with a very bad temper and Salt was a small dog with a very good temper. Pepper displayed his temper at its very worst when his family first moved to a new town but then all the neighborhood children and all the neighborhood dogs appeared to welcome him and help with the moving. The result was chaos for the moving men but Pepper was happy because he had found so many new friends. The story moves slowly and has little to hold the reader's interest. The colors in the illustrations are too distracting and make the pages both confusing and difficult to read. Not recommended.

(Gr.3-5)

Carse, Robert. Great venture; illus. by Christine Price. Scribner's, 1952. 239p. \$2.50.

The story of a little known episode in history - the Scots' disastrous attempt to settle New Caledonia. Sixteen-year-old Ewen, Laird Laikie, went with his uncle on the expedition although he doubted from the very first the worth of the idea and the integrity of the men who were backing the group. After several battles with the Spanish the Scots were forced to leave the islands and return home. By that time, however, Ewen had made friends on the island of Darien and he returned there to make a home for his mother. A stirring tale that will have interest both for its historical background and as a good adventure story.

(Gr.7-9)

Cavanna, Betty. Lasso your heart. Westminster, 1952. 184p. \$2.50.

When sixteen-year-old Prudence Foster moved, with her family, from their Texas ranch to a large cattle farm in Pennsylvania, she found herself in new and somewhat frightening situations as she began to mix with the socialite friends of her wealthy cousin, Cecily Rountree. The two girls became good friends in spite of the differences in their backgrounds and Prudence managed to prevent her cousin from making an unwise marriage without spoiling that friendship. Cecily's infatuation with Mac, a young Texas college student who was spending the summer on the Pennsylvania ranch, is well handled. The implication that is made that only in private schools do students get really good teaching and acquire poise gives some false values to what is otherwise a good story.

(Gr.8-10)

Chapman, Jane A. Girl's book of sewing; diagrams by Walter Chapman; illus. by Jeva Cralick. Greenberg, 1952. 95p. \$2.

A sewing book for the beginner. The directions start with objects that require the easiest and most basic of stitches and progress to the use of simple patterns. The instructions, which include both hand and machine sewing, are clear and easy to follow and the diagrams are excellent. Some of the pages contain decorations that are not essential to the text and simply give the book a cluttered appearance. The book could be used by older girls who are just learning to sew since the objects to be made are such things as head scarfs, aprons, bridge sets, shorts, skirts, halters, etc.

(Gr.3-8)

Chastain, Madye Lee. Bright days; written and illus. by Madye Lee Chastain. Harcourt, 1952. 178p. \$2.25. (D4;D42;D134)

Summer began as a lonesome time for eleven-year-old Marcy after her best friends moved out of the neighborhood. Then came a delightful surprise when the house next door, which had been closed for years, was opened and the Fripseys moved in. There were eleven Fripseys - 18 if you counted the dogs and cats. Best of all, one of the girls, Patty, was Marcy's age and the two were soon best friends. The Fripseys are a delightful family and young girls will enjoy meeting them and sharing the fun and troubles of Marcy and Patty.

(Gr.5-7)

Child Study Association of America, comp. Holiday storybook; illus. by Phoebe Erickson. Crowell, 1952. 373p. \$3.

A collection of stories for the major holidays and festivals. Includes stories for New Year, Lincoln's Birthday, Valentine's Day, Washington's Birthday, Shrove Tuesday, Purim, Saint Patrick's Day, April Fool's Day, Passover, Easter, Arbor Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Rosh Hashana, Columbus Day, United Nations Day, Halloween, Armistice Day, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Sabbath, birthdays. The stories are uneven in quality but the collection is generally good. Some of the stories are excerpts from longer books and some are taken from children's magazines. The book is attractive and will make a nice gift item.

(Gr.2-4)

Crampton, Gertrude. The funny fixes of the Floogle family; illus. by Dorothy Maas. Bobbs-Merrill, 1952. 160p. \$2.

Dull story of a family that is completely confused and constantly in trouble. There is little imagination or originality to the situations or their solutions. The author keeps reminding the reader that this is a very funny family but there is little proof of it in the episodes described. Not recommended.

(Gr.3-5)

Del Rey, Lester. A pirate flag for Monterey; the story of the sack of Monterey; illus. by Donald E. Cooke. Winston, 1952. 178p. (Winston adventure books). \$1.50.

Sixteen-year-old Miguel San Lucas Obanion y Boronda - known to his friends as Mike - was anxious to return to Monterey to see his mother who was ill and to help warn the city

of the approaching attack by the Argentinean pirate, Bouchard. The ship on which Mike was returning burned, Mike was captured by Bouchard and did not escape until after the fall of Monterey. The story is too obviously contrived to fit the historical events and the characters never quite come alive. Not recommended.

(Gr.5-7)

DuJardin, Rosamond (Neal). Marcy catches up. Lippincott, 1952. 191p. \$2.50.

More light-hearted doings of Marcy and her friend, Liz. This time the two girls accept an invitation to spend the month of August at Liz's uncle's ranch in Colorado. There Marcy plunges into a love affair with a handsome young cowboy but comes to recognize it as just a summer's romance and not to be taken too seriously. There are some sound values beneath the light approach.

(Gr.8-10)

Edsall, Marian. Our auto trip; illus. by Dorothy Grider. Rand McNally, 1952. 27p. (A book-elf book). 25¢.

Father, mother, and two children start on an auto trip that involves two days travel, an overnight stop in a motel, and the final destination - their grandparents' farm. There is little story interest and the writing is not good enough to make effective the slight suspense of the children's wondering about their destination. Not recommended.

(Pre-school)

Emett, Rowland. New world for Nellie. Harcourt, 1952. 38p. \$2.

Amusing fantasy involving Nellie, the old-fashioned train running on the line from Cloud Cuckoo Valley to the sea. When the engineer and fireman grew tired of hearing the people along the line complain because Nellie was never on time, they converted her into a flying machine and set sail in search of adventure. They found adventures a-plenty in America, which they covered from coast to coast, but eventually they became homesick for Cloud Cuckoo Valley and returned. Whereupon the people promised never to grumble again. Exquisite illustrations filled with fascinating details that children and adults will enjoy poring over.

(Gr.3-5)

Fletcher, Sydney E. The big book of the wild west; written and illus. by Sydney E. Fletcher. Grosset, 1952. 24p. (Big treasure books) \$1.

Full-page color illustrations about various aspects of the West. The best known of the early Trails are shown on a large map on the front endpapers and on small insert maps in the body of the book. Contents include: The Santa Fe Trail; The Old Oregon Trail; equipment carried by the early pioneers; the Pony Express; the iron horse; famous men who helped settle the West; the Deadwood Coach; Custer's last stand; and the range war. Back endpapers contain pictures of some of the birds and animals found in the old West. The book can be used as a picture book for young children and 4-6 grade readers can handle the text alone. Size: 13"x9".

(K-Gr.6)

Floherly, John Joseph. Get that story: journalism - its lore and thrills. Lippincott, 1952. 150p. \$2.75.

Beginning with a brief history of journalism, the author then proceeds to show how a small country weekly is run and how a large metropolitan

paper operates. There is clear and concise information about the varied duties of a reporter, and some of the misconceptions of what reporters do and how they act are dispelled. The book makes fascinating reading for the layman who wants a general knowledge of the subject, and will also be useful as vocational guidance material.

(Gr.7-12)

Franklin, George Cory. Shorty's mule; by George Cory Franklin and William Moyers. Houghton, 1952. 46p. \$2.25.

When Smoky was brought in during a yearly round-up of colts he had so much personality that even though he was a mule the ranch owner allowed Shorty to keep him. He soon became Shorty's pet and would follow along wherever the cowhand went. When Shorty tangled with some rustlers, Smoky came to the rescue and not only saved the cattle but helped in the capture of the outlaws. Amusing story, told with Franklin's sure touch and real understanding of the west and of animals. The book is graded 4-8 years but would have to be read to children of those ages since it is written at a beginning 5th grade reading level. The humor and subject interest will give it appeal for high school readers who are somewhat retarded.

(Gr.5-7)

Furman, Abraham Louis, ed. Teen-age horse stories; ed. by David Thomas [pseud.]; illus. by Richard Osborne. Grosset, 1950. 252p. \$1.25.

Mediocre collection of horse stories - most of them about ranch horses. Some well known writers are included but these stories do not represent their best works. Not recommended.

(Gr.7-9)

Garst, Warren E. Texas trail drive; illus. by Joshua Telford. Ariel, 1952. 212p. \$2.75.

A story of Texas in the days immediately following the Civil War and of the first of the cattle drives to Abilene. Although fifteen-year-old Dave Walters had managed the ranch alone during the war, Mr. Walters did not think he was old enough or stable enough to go on the first cattle drive. Dave finally persuaded his father to let him go and during the drive proved his ability and courage. The story follows a pattern that has been used many times and adds nothing new to the telling. The writing is adequate, although not outstanding and the book may be used where there is need for much material on this subject.

(Gr.6-8)

Goudey, Alice E. Danny Boy, the picture pony; pictures by Paul Brown. Scribner's, 1952. 94p. \$2.

Although Danny Boy, a retired circus horse, was well-loved by everyone in Pleasantville, he was not happy. Finally one day the people came to realize that he missed the applause and excitement of the circus so after that they always let him lead parades and do his tricks and he was happy. An easy-to-read story with a subject that will have wide appeal.

(Gr.2-4)

Govan, Christine (Noble). The super-duper car; pictures by Lisl Weil. Houghton, 1952. 78p. \$2.

A lively story of three small Negro children who yearn for a "super-duper" car to ride in and who get their wish when they pool their resources and build a car from a big wooden box and four discarded wheels. The story is told with a humor and warmth that young children will enjoy.

(Gr.3-5)

Graham, Alberta (Powell). Lafayette, friend of America; illus. by Ralph Ray. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1952. 128p. \$1.50.

Simplified biography of Lafayette from his childhood to his death. This is not as distinguished a piece of writing as Gottschalk's Youngest general (Knopf, 1949) but it is somewhat easier reading and will be satisfactory as a first biography of Lafayette.

(Gr.3-5)

Graham, Vera M. Treasure in the covered wagon; a story of the Oregon Trail; drawings by Howard Simon. Lippincott, 1952. 191p. \$2.50.

Young Flave-Ann Stone was determined that when the family moved to Oregon her organ would go with them. Her father promised they would carry it as far as they could although he knew that getting over the Oregon Trail would be difficult and they might have to reduce the wagon's load at any point on the trip. However, in spite of the hardships of the Trail the organ came through safely and Flave-Ann was able to play it at her sister's wedding in Oregon. The story is based on an actual happening and adds a pleasant bit to the accounts of this period.

(Gr.4-6)

Harris, Josl Chandler. The wonderful tar-baby; told by Uncle Remus; retold for little children; illus. by Delliwn Cunningham. Wonder Books, 1952. 25p. 25¢.

A re-telling of one of the better known of the Uncle Remus stories. The dialect has been eliminated - and very stilted dialog substituted - but the characters of Uncle Remus and the little boy have been retained. The story has lost all of the flavor that made it so excellent for storytelling and the present text is awkward to read either aloud or silently. Not recommended.

(Pre-school)

Hayes, Florence (Sooy). Joe-Pole, new American; illus. by Dirk Gringhuis. Houghton, 1952. 244p. \$2.50.

Joe Pulaski was determined to lose his foreign ways as fast as possible and become as American as the other boys in his school. The way was not easy for his parents were poor and were having a hard time getting started on the farm which his father was working on shares. Then Mr. Pulaski became ill and had to have an operation and Joe was left with the responsibility of earning enough money to pay the doctor's bills and provide food for himself and his mother. How he worked out his problems and at the same time won a place for himself in the school and community as a real American rather than just a "DP" makes a warm and moving story that will help young people appreciate their heritage as well as understand the problems of newcomers to this country.

(Gr.7-9)

Horner, Esther (Daniels). Jungles ahead!; illus. by Cyrus LeRoy Baldrige. Friendship Press, 1952. 116p. \$2, cloth; \$1.25, paper.

Six stories of Africans who have become Christian. The stories are told from the missionary view point and will be of primary usefulness for Sunday School classes working on missionary units and wanting material about real people.

(Gr.7-9)

Ivens, Bryna, ed. Nineteen from Seventeen; stories from Seventeen magazine. Lippincott, 1952. 239p. \$2.75.

A second collection of short stories taken from Seventeen magazine. The stories are uneven in quality but are generally acceptable and cover a wide range of teen-age interests and emotions.

(Gr.8-12)

Jackson, Dorothy V. S. Bold venture; a novel. Lippincott, 1952. 246p. \$2.50.

Seventeen-year-old Johanna fell in love with Bluebird from the minute she first saw him even though she knew he was the horse who had killed her uncle. She took a job at the Dolan Riding Academy so she could pay for the horse's upkeep and then started the long, difficult process of winning the horse's confidence and overcoming his viciousness. In the process she fell in love with Kevin Dolan and eventually won both the horse and the man. A maturely written story and one that will appeal to teen-age girls as much for the love angle as the subject interest.

(Gr.9-12)

Jay, Edith. Child's book of knitting; illus. by Lucile Newman; diagrams by Jerry Jay.

Greenberg, 1952. 92p. \$1.50.

A beginning book of knitting for very young children. The instructions are fairly easy although not always clear enough for a child to follow without some help from an adult. The directions for casting on stitches are not those most commonly followed by experienced knitters and the child who learns by this method will have to learn other methods before going on to more complicated knitting. Pages are cluttered with decorations that have no purpose and serve only to make the text more difficult to read. Shields and Wemple, Knit one, purl one (Lippincott, 1938) is a more satisfactory book for beginning knitters. Not recommended.

(Gr.2-4)

Jones, Adrienne. Thunderbird pass. Lippincott, 1952. 222p. \$2.50.

When thirteen-year-old Jonathan Tucker came to his uncle's pack station at Thunderbird Pass to live while his mother was in a sanatorium recovering from a breakdown, he resented his uncle, the mountains, and everything that was different from the city life he had always known. In time, however, he came to love the mountains - so much so, in fact, that he dreaded the day when his mother would come to take him back to the city. His adventures with flash floods, an escaped convict, and an avalanche, plus his final winning of his mother to a liking for the mountains and a decision to stay there makes a swift-paced, interesting story with a real feel for both the mountains and ranch life.

(Gr.7-9)

Kipling, Rudyard. Just so stories; illus. by Nicolas. Garden City Books, 1952. 84p. \$2.50.

A strikingly beautiful edition of Kipling's Just so stories illustrated with some of the best of Nicolas' art in which strong lines and bold colors capture the feeling of the jungle and the humor of Kipling's style. From the point of view of the child's use of the book this edition has serious faults. In two instances the color from the illustrations covers the entire page of text. The result is satisfying as art but the text cannot be read without great difficulty. On many of the pages the color runs into the text and will be confusing for young readers whose eye movements are not well developed. The text has not been altered and the book could be used by storytellers who had no need to refer to the text but were using the illustrations to add to the group's enjoyment of the stories. (Gr.4-6)

Knight, Clayton. The big book of real jet planes; text and pictures by Clayton Knight. Grosset, 1952. 24p. (Big treasure books) \$1.

Brief descriptions and full-color pictures of various types of jet planes. The text includes a brief history of jets; the general principles of jet propulsion and jet motors; and where the various materials used in building jets are obtained. The pages are more cluttered than those of the Zaffo books but the pictures of the individual planes are generally clear enough for identification. (Gr.2-6)

Kunhardt, Dorothy Meserve. Lucky Mrs. Ticklefeather; pictures by J. P. Miller. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 26p. 85¢, Goldenraft Cloth Binding. (A little golden book).

The story of an eccentric woman who lived in a pent-house with her pet puffin, Paul, and longed for a sunflower to put in her big vase. One day Paul disappeared, Mrs. Ticklefeather called in the local police, and after much searching Paul was recovered - with the sunflower for Mrs. Ticklefeather. This is the kind of silly nonsense that most children enjoy. The illustrations are colorful but sophisticated rather than childlike. First published in 1935. (K-Gr.1)

Lachman, Ruth Mabee. Boats; pictures by Lenora and Herbert Combes. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 26p. 85¢, Goldenraft Cloth Binding. (A little golden book).

Unnecessary repetition that becomes irritating rather than rhythmic and is difficult to read aloud, cluttered pages that make boat identification impossible, and objectionable stereotypes in some of the illustrations make the book unsatisfactory. Not recommended. (K-Gr.1)

Lawrence, Mildred. Grissy at the wheel; illus. by Marvin Billeck. Harcourt, 1952. 200p. \$2.50.

A pleasant family story of eleven-year-old Cassandra Bingham, her father, and her somewhat crotchety Aunt Henrietta. Mr. Bingham is a carriage salesman who decides to branch out with a new line of horseless carriages and persuades his employer to build the machines for him. Mr.

Wellfleet, the carriage maker, agrees on the condition that Mr. Bingham can sell twenty of the new machines in a year's time. In 1901 it is hard to convince the residents of a small town such as Granite City, Michigan that horseless carriages are here to stay, but Mr. Bingham, with Grissy's help, manages to convince at least twenty of them and thus wins Mr. Wellfleet's approval of the whole project. Good period fiction. (Gr.5-7)

Leeming, Joseph. The real book about easy music-making; illus. by Jeanne Bendick. Garden City Books, 1952. 190p. \$1.25.

Slightly revised edition of Leeming's It's easy to make music (Watts, 1948). Some of the sections have been partially re-written - more a tightening up of the writing than a change in the content - and others have been omitted. The sections omitted are: the mandolin; the ocarina or sweet potato; the glockenspiel or bell lyre; the zyllophone and marimba; the bazoomer or humbuzzer; a pin piano; a rubber band harp; drummers' traps, the sand blocks, the tambourine; home made cymbals; bean rattles (maracas); thimble and jar-lid music; Indian musical instruments; and the rosin can. No new material has been added. (Gr.7-9)

Lewis, Alfred. Treasure in the Andes; illus. by Zhenya Gay. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1952. 128p. \$1.50.

Pepito is a young Indian boy of Peru who has a great desire someday to become an artist. His family is poor but his father is determined that Pepito will have the education he wants. The solution to their financial problem comes when Pepito and his father locate a rich silver deposit for a nearby mining company. The story has an interesting setting but is marred by extremely careless writing. Not recommended. (Gr.4-6)

Lofting, Hugh. Doctor Dolittle's Ruddleby adventures; written and illus. by Hugh. Lofting. Lippincott, 1952. 241p. \$3.

Eight stories about the famous Doctor Dolittle and his friends, both animal and human. According to the publishers these are the last of the Dolittle tales. They were printed years ago in the New York Herald Tribune but have not appeared in book form. These stories have the same humor and appeal of the earlier books and this edition will be welcomed by all Dolittle fans. (Gr.4-6)

Macpherson, Margaret L. New Zealand beckons; illus. by A. S. Paterson. Dodd, 1952. 248p. \$2.50.

Another story of Janie and Jed Smithers of Australia calling. This time the two children are with their father and an anthropologist friend in New Zealand. The information given about New Zealand is interesting but is too cluttered with sickeningly sweet or annoyingly precocious remarks by the two children. An adult romance does nothing to enhance the book's appeal for young readers. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)

Malkus, Aida Sims. Little giant of the north; the boy who won a fur empire; illus. by Jay Hyde Barnum. Winston, 1952. 178p.

(Winston adventure books). \$1.50.

Henry Kelsey was only fourteen when he began working for the Hudson Bay Company, but within a few years he had become one of the most valuable of the Company's employees. Following the lead of Pierre Radisson, Henry learned the language of the Indians, made friends with them, won their confidence and eventually their trade in furs. At the same time he traveled among them and gained valuable information about the country to the west. His story is an absorbing one and deserves better treatment than it receives here. The author's peculiar mannerisms in writing, her use of misspellings in both narrative and descriptive passages, awkward sentence constructions, and similar strivings for effect when the narrative itself is effective enough, becomes irritating and ruins much of the reader's enjoyment of the book. (Gr. 6-8)

Miers, Earl Schenck. Monkey shines; a baseball story; illus. by Paul Galdone. World, 1952. 207p. \$2.50.

When the boys of Northfield set out to establish a Little League team the prospects looked bleak. The only available field was too rough, there were no large industries in the town to serve as sponsor for the team, and no one to coach it. Nothing daunted, Sleepy Jones set out to overcome at least a few of the obstacles. He persuaded the son of a local contracting agent to borrow his father's bulldozer and clear and level the field; the merchants of the town undertook the sponsorship of the team, as a joint project; and Sleepy's father persuaded an ex-major league player in town to coach the team. Between interest in the team and excitement over Joanna, a monkey who escaped from her owner and defied all efforts to catch her until she met her match in Sleepy's three-year-old brother, known locally as Mr. Trouble, the summer proved a memorable one. The story has humor, suspense, good family relations and a subject that should give it wide appeal. (Gr. 4-6)

Molloy, Anne Stearns (Baker). Where away? illus. by Joshua Tolford. Houghton, 1952. 241p. \$3.50.

Patience Little resented being left in New England by her parents just because the doctor thought she was not strong enough for a sea trip. The first opportunity she had, she and Cleon Cottle, a young boy who lived nearby, stowed away on a vessel that would take them to Havana where they both hoped to join Patience's father's ship, the Pandora. Unfortunately they stowed away on the wrong ship and although the Lightning was going to Havana it was too slow to reach there before the Pandora sailed. Cleon and Patience then joined the Silver Arrow which was due to reach San Francisco about the same time as the Pandora. The Silver Arrow was struck by lightning, burned, and sank. Patience and most of the crew were picked up by the Pandora, which happened to be close at hand, but Cleon was lost. A vivid picture of life on sailing vessels of 1887. Tolford's sepia drawings are vigorous but do not always match the text and somewhat spoil the effect of the period setting of the story. (Gr. 6-8)

Muller, Carolyn Edna. God planned it that way; pictures by Lloyd Dotterer. Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1952. 23p. \$1.

Extremely sentimental book designed to teach young children that everything that exists or happens results from God's planning. Could be used by Sunday Schools or by parents who concur in this teaching. (Pre-school)

Munn, Ian. The little mailman of Bayberry Lane; illus. by Elizabeth Webbe. Rand McNally, 1952. 27p. (A book-elf book). 25¢.

The little mailman - a chipmunk - feels sorry for the pig who lives at the end of his route because she never receives any mail. One day he plans a surprise party for her and after that she is no longer lonesome. Insipid story. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Nevins, Albert J. The adventures of Kenji of Japan; illus. by Kurt Wiese. Dodd, 1952. 275p. \$2.75.

A story of post-war Japan and the Tagai family who lose their farm through the crooked dealings of a produce company representative and are rescued from starvation by a Maryknoll missionary. The plot is too obviously contrived, the characters are totally lacking in reality, and any story interest is lost in the mass of details about Japan's history, geography, and present social and economic conditions. Not recommended. (Gr. 7-9)

Neyhart, Louise Albright. Giant of the yards; illus. by Frederick T. Chapman. Houghton, 1952. 218p. \$3.

A biography of Gustavus Swift and a history of the meat packing industry. The material is interesting and Swift emerges as a real person. The treatment of labor problems and of the working conditions that brought forth such condemnations as Upton Sinclair's The jungle are glossed over or given only the briefest of mention. The book is acceptable as a biography but is inadequate as material on the social and economic development of the time. (Gr. 7-9)

Norton, June Mary. Sing and be happy; pictures by Charlot Byj. Day, 1951. 46p. \$2.50.

Simple songs of everyday doings. The words are about things young children know and find interesting. The tunes are easy to sing and pleasing. Excellent for lower elementary music classes or for use with individual children. (Gr. 1-4)

O'Reilly, John. The Glob; pictures by Walt Kelly. Viking, 1952. 63p. \$1.50.

A facetious attempt to explain evolution through the doings of Glob, a shapeless creature who starts life in the ocean but finally learns to adapt himself to dry land. There he goes through a series of firsts - first stomach ache, first song, first picture, first home, etc. Having learned all these things the hard way, he then takes over a tribe of globs who have reached the stage of living in trees and teaches them all he has learned. The book is smartly rather than humorous and is not accurate enough to be useful as an informational book. Not recommended. (Gr. 5-7)

Perrault, Charles. Puss in boots; a free translation from the French; pictures by Marcia Brown. Scribner's, 1952. 28p. \$2.

Marcia Brown's illustrations for this favorite fairy tale are among her best work. The text, unfortunately, is not as satisfactory as that of some of the earlier translations, particularly the Lang or the Mansion. The illustrations will give the book its primary usefulness for story hours where the story can be told rather than read. (Gr.3-5)

Rasmussen, Carrie. Fun-time puppets; by Carrie Rasmussen and Caroline Storck; pictures by Caroline Storck. Childrens Press, 1952. 4lp. \$2.40.

Simple puppets for young children to make. The text is confusing in that many of the directions refer to information on subsequent pages. Children will need considerable adult help both with the reading of the text and the handling of the materials. Warner's Ragamuffin marionettes (Houghton, 1932) is no more difficult to use and much superior. Not recommended. (Gr.3-4)

Reichert, E. G. To the store we go; illus. by Ora Walker. Rand McNally, 1952. 27p. (A book-elf book). 25¢.

Two children accompany their mother to the grocery store. Some of their activities there are helpful but some, such as doing acrobatics on the exit gates and playing hide-and-seek along the aisles, should not be encouraged. Contrived story. Not recommended. (Gr.1-3)

Reid, Alexander. The young traveller in France. Phoenix House, 1952. 160p. \$2.

Travelogue of France in which an English family with French relatives visits the continent. Although not quite so dull as most books of this kind, the story is too contrived to be really interesting. The page set-up is forbidding - small print and crowded pages. Not recommended. (Gr.6-8)

Rich, Louise (Dickinson). Trail to the north; a Bill Gordon story. Lippincott, 1952. 214p. \$2.50.

Another story of Bill Gordon, young Maine guide, and his family. This time Bill sets out to help Frank Stark, a wealthy businessman, find his long lost brother. The story is much less well written than the earlier book about the Gordons. Bill's younger sister, Susie, who plays an important part in the story is completely impossible. Not recommended. (Gr.7-9)

Schloat, G. Warren. The wonderful egg. Scribner's, 1952. 46p. \$2.25.

An excellent account of the process through which eggs go from fertilization to hatching, with a few extra pointers on the care of baby chicks, how to keep eggs fresh, and a recipe for a fried egg sandwich. Illustrated with photographs and drawings which are an important part of the book and make the text easy to understand. An excellent book for nature study units or for nursery schools and kindergartens that might have setting hens. (Pre-school-Gr.6)

Schneider, Herman. Your telephone and how it works; by Herman and Nina Schneider; pictures by Jeanne Bendick. Whittlesey House, 1952. 96p. \$2.

The seemingly intricate workings of telephones - both manual and dial - are explained in terms that make them easy to understand. Diagrams are well placed and add greatly to the understanding of the text. Includes such unusual types of phones as car phones, handy-talkies, walkie-talkies, ship-to-shore phones, and phones on trains. (Gr.5-9)

Scholz, Jackson Volney. Deep short. Morrow, 1952. 249p. \$2.50.

Pete Mason went into major league baseball partly because he thought the game was fun but mostly to convince his father that it was as good business as running a mill. His struggles through minor league games and a disastrous barnstorming trip made him realize that there is more to the game than the money that is earned. Although some of the minor characters are poorly drawn and unconvincing, Pete is a very real person and through his experiences the reader gets some exciting descriptions of ball games. (Gr.7-9)

Simon, Patty. Just like mommy; Just like daddy; by Patty and Bobby Simon; illus. by Allison Cummings and Eleanor Dart. Wonder Books, 1952. 26p. 25¢.

A two-in-one book. In half the book the little girl does everything mommy does. Turn the book around and upside down and there is the little boy doing everything just like daddy. There is no substance to either story and the illustrations are mediocre. Not recommended. (Pre-school)

Simon, Ruth. Mat and Mandy and the little old car; pictures by Lisl Weil. Crowell, 1952. 110p. \$2.50.

Mat and Mandy lived with their parents in a valley at the foot of some high mountains. When the heat became too great the family would pack up the little old car and make a trip to the cool mountains. The writing lacks the rhythmic quality that makes a story fun to read aloud and, read silently, the endless repetition becomes boring. Not enough subject interest to hold the reader's attention. Not recommended. (K-Gr.3)

Syme, Ronald. Columbus, finder of the new world; illus. by William Stobbs. Morrow, 1952. 70p. \$2.

A simplified but vigorous account of the voyages of Columbus. The author has not written down to his audience so the book can have a wide range of use with older as well as young readers. The illustrations add greatly to the forcefulness of the writing. (Gr.5-8)

Tatham, Julie Campbell. The mongrel of Merryway Farm; illus. by Edwin Megargee. World, 1952. 232p. \$2.50.

Sally and Mike Sutherland, whose parents own a dog hospital and boarding kennels, are

not allowed to have pets of their own. Trouble comes when a litter of mongrels is born at the kennels and Sally tries to keep the runt. Up to a certain point the story is good but it breaks down when the mongrel, Rusty, and the dog next door begin talking about philatelists, retirement funds, fiancées, etc. In addition to the unnecessary personification of the animals there is a false attitude on the part of the adults toward money. Not recommended.

(Gr.4-6)

United Nations. Department of Public Information. A garden we planted together.

Whittlesey House, 1952. 48p. \$2.

A picture book based on a movie produced by the U. N. Department of Public Information and designed to teach very young children the principles on which the U. N. is based. The illustrations are stylized but with some adult help and explanation most children will be able to follow them and understand the points that are being made.

(Gr.2-4)

Urmston, Mary. Larry's luck; illus. by Jean MacDonald Porter. Doubleday, 1952. 188p. \$2.50.

Larry was at an awkward age, somewhat overweight and no longer able to compete with the other boys in most athletic events. During the period leading up to his town's annual Field Day, in which he would participate that year for the first time, he set himself the task of becoming proficient at one sport and of losing some weight. In following his program he made some new friends and helped save Field Day when a few of the townspeople tried to end it on the grounds that it was more expense than it was worth. A good story of a boy's growing up.

(Gr.5-7)

Vipont, Charles. Blow the man down; illus. by Norman Hepple. Lippincott, 1952. 248p. \$2.75.

A re-telling of the life and voyages of Thomas Lurting, an English sailor of the seventeenth century, who won renown both for his extraordinary way of winning battles with no fighting and as one of the early Quakers. The story is told in the first person by a young boy who presumably served with Lurting on many of his voyages. Thomas Lurting's own account of his conversion to the Quaker religion and his encounter with the Turks is reproduced in facsimile. The format of the book is somewhat formidable but readers who get beyond the first impression will find this an exciting and stirring adventure story.

(Gr.7-9)

Walden, Amelia Elizabeth. Marsha on-stage! Morrow, 1952. 251p. \$2.50.

Marsha Blake is a spoiled young high school student and the leading actress in her home town. She resents Stephen Terry, son of a famous acting couple, when he comes to New Sharon and opens a little theater. After ruining Stephen's first play, Marsha then falls in love with him - and saves his second one. Not an outstanding story but the characters are more realistically portrayed than is usual in Walden's books and there are some good values in Marsha's changing relationships with Stephen and the other students.

(Gr.8-10)

Ward, Nanda. The black sombrero; by Nanda Ward and Lynd Ward. Ariel, 1952. 27p. \$1.75.

A mildly amusing fantasy of the West. Johnson, a cowboy, is proud of his big black sombrero, so when a big wind blows it away one day he starts looking for it. His search takes him to a great prairie, to the barren rocks, to the desert, and finally to the foothills where he locates the hat which is serving as a home for a nest of baby rabbits. Johnson rescues the hat and the rabbits and all ends well. Lynd Ward's illustrations are more important than the story.

(K-Gr.1)

Warner Bros. Cartoons. Bugs Bunny and the Indians; told by Annie North Bedford; adapted by Richmond I. Kelsey and Tom McKimson. Simon and Schuster, 1951. 26p. 85¢, Golden-craft Cloth Binding. (A little golden book).

Bugs Bunny goes west, tangles with some modern Indians, and, as usual, comes out on top. There is more story and more humor here than is usual for the adaptations of movie cartoons.

(K-Gr.3)

Wilde, Irma. Mr. Wishing went fishing; pictures by George Wilde. Wonder Books, 1952. 24p. 25¢.

Mr. Wishing needed a fish to live in the beautiful glass bowl in the middle of his table so he went fishing for one. Some that he caught were too large and some too small but eventually he found just the right one. Then he had to find it a mate. The author tries too hard for her fantasy with the result that it falls flat. Not recommended.

(Pre-school)

Instructional Materials. Supplementary Reading and Sources of Materials

The materials listed here are not available from the Center for Children's Books. Orders should be sent to the publishers of the individual items.

Adams, Olga. Children and the city. Printed by Irwin Zider at the Michael Reese Hospital Printing Department, Chicago, Illinois, 1952. \$1.

Photographs, drawings, and text describe a program designed for teaching kindergarten children about their city.

"Choosing and using free and inexpensive materials" Vol. VII, No. 1, S'52. Curriculum and Materials, Board of Education, N. Y.

George Peabody College for Teachers. Free and inexpensive learning materials. 1952 ed. \$1.

Gray, William S. and Iverson, William J. "What should be the profession's attitude toward lay criticism of the schools? With special reference to reading?" Elementary School Journal. S'52. 60¢, single copies. The entire issue is devoted to a report of the study.

McKillop, Anne Selley. The relationship between the reader's attitude and certain types of reading response. Teachers College, Columbia University, 1952. \$2.75.

MAN

Harper E66 F9c E7cd.